



NEWS RELEASE

Idaho Office of Energy Resources

RELEASE 2007- 48

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Boise, Idaho – December 3, 2007

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Rocky Mountain Power and OER team up to reduce electric bills

The Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER) and Rocky Mountain Power are partnering to help the utility's customers take advantage of low-interest loans and cash incentives to help make homes more energy efficient and save consumers money on monthly electric bills.

Low-interest loans from the Office of Energy Resources are available for residential customers to make their homes more energy efficient. Homeowners can borrow \$1,000 to \$15,000 for five years at 4-percent interest to add or improve insulation and upgrade heating systems and water heaters. Rocky Mountain Power also provides cash incentives for more energy-efficient appliances, lighting, water heaters, cooling systems and select tune-up services.

Both the state and Rocky Mountain Power are committed to working with residents in southeastern Idaho to reduce energy consumption through efficiency measures. This unique partnership optimizes the support available to southeastern Idaho residents by leveraging Rocky Mountain Power's incentive programs with the state's low-interest loan program. When combined, the incentives and the loan program result in a smaller investment required and a quicker payback of the loans.

"Efficiency and conservation are the easiest and most responsible ways to increase our energy independence and ensure our economic future," Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter said. "Anything we can do as part of a public-private partnership to promote cost-effective energy savings has my support. I appreciate the opportunities that Rocky Mountain Power and Office of Energy Resources Administrator Paul Kjellander are providing for ratepayers, and for Idaho's future."

The Idaho Office of Energy Resources has made available as much as to \$1 million for the loan program. The loans are available to all credit-eligible customers within the Rocky Mountain Power service area.

To learn more about the loan program call the Idaho Energy Hotline at 1-800-334-SAVE or log onto the Office of Energy Resources' Web site at www.energy.idaho.gov/loans. Loan applications are available online. Energy specialists also are available at the Office of Energy Resources website via the Ask an Energy Specialist link. For information on Rocky Mountain Power's energy saving incentives log onto www.rockymountainpower.net/hes or call 1-800-942-0287.

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Low Interest Loans & Cash Incentives Fact Sheet

Idaho Office of Energy Resources

The Idaho Office of Energy Resources provides loans to help homeowners conserve energy and ultimately save on their utility bills. Eligible projects include upgrading heating systems and water heaters, insulation, and wood, pellet or gas stoves. The loan does not cover windows at this time.

The application is a two-step process. The homeowner decides what needs to be done to the home, and obtains a bid for each project. The application and bid for each project are sent to the Office of Energy Resources in Boise for approval.

If the project application is approved, a credit application is sent to the homeowner by a pre-selected financial institution. Credit approval is based on good credit and the ability to repay the loan.

Both project and credit applications must be fully approved prior to any work being started. The loan may not be used to refinance existing or completed projects.

- Five year loan at 4-percent interest
- \$1,000 borrowing minimum; \$15,000 maximum
- Fuel-blind – doesn't matter what type of heating system is in the home
- Application must be approved before work is started
- Available for primary residences throughout Idaho

The application is available online at www.energy.idaho.gov/loans or by calling the Idaho Energy Hotline, 1-800-334-SAVE, and requesting a paper copy. The application includes a detailed criteria sheet explaining the application process.

Rocky Mountain Power

Rocky Mountain Power's Home Energy Savings Program offers cash incentives and referrals to qualified contractors to help make homes more energy efficient. Cash is offered on a variety of products and services that will keep the home comfortable and lower electricity bills.

Cash incentives are available when the homeowner purchases a qualifying clothes washer, refrigerator, dishwasher, electric water heater or ceiling fan. Customers can also purchase reduced-price compact fluorescent light bulbs as part of this program. Cash incentives also are available for windows, insulation, high-efficiency central air cooling systems, evaporative coolers, duct sealing and for tune-up services on existing central air conditioners and heat pumps.

For more information about Rocky Mountain Power's incentive program, call 1-800-942-0287 or see their Web site at www.rockymountainpower.net/hes